

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27 further comprising at least one panel edge support disposed beneath said first planar surface, such that when said panel is in said closed position, said panel is supported by said panel edge support.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): The system according to claim 2 wherein said panel edge support is a lip disposed around the edge of said opening.

Claim 4 (Original): The system according to claim 2 wherein said at least one panel edge support comprises a plurality of panel edge supports.

Claim 5 (Withdrawn): The system according to claim 2 wherein said at least one panel edge support comprises first and second panel edge supports oppositely disposed, said first and second edge supports being separated by first and second gaps disposed proximate to said hinge ~~point~~.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27 wherein said opening is a geometric shape chosen from the group of geometric shapes consisting of squares, oblongs, triangles, ovals, and circles.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27 wherein said opening is bounded by said first planar surface on three sides.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27 wherein said front edge of said panel and said front edge of said opening have mating profiles.

Claim 9 (Withdrawn): The system according to claim 8 wherein said mating profiles are at an angle equal to said sloping angle.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn): The system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27, further comprising a support member to which one central said slider assembly is attached, ~~said support board being attached at a sloping angle to said support structure.~~

Claim 11 (Withdrawn): The system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27, ~~a first end of said stationary component being pivotally attached to said support structure, a second end of said stationary component~~ having a first and second end, said second end bearing on at least one adjustable support ~~attached to said support structure~~, said adjustable support having means for adjusting said sloping angle of said stationary components.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27, wherein said first planar surface comprises a planar surface selected from the group of planar surfaces consisting of desktops, kiosks, work stations, work benches, plane or boat bulkheads, floors, library tables, conference tables, credenzas, dressing tables, vanities, commodes, benches, seats of chairs, chests, secretaries, occasional tables, kitchen counters, hatches, floors, roads, sidewalks, pavement, and lawns.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27, further comprising a second planar surface parallel to said first planar surface and disposed beneath said panel.

Claim 14 (Original): The system according to claim 13, wherein said second planar surface is stationary.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The system according to claim 13, wherein said second planar surface is slidable.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim [[1]]_27, further comprising a second planar surface parallel to said first planar surface and disposed beneath said opening.

Claim 17 (Original): The system according to claim 16, wherein said second planar surface is stationary.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The system according to claim 16, wherein said second planar surface is slidable.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim [[1]]_27 wherein said at least one sliding assembly comprises a plurality of sliding assemblies.

Claim 20 (Original): The system according to claim 19 wherein a reinforcing member connects said plurality of sliding components.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim [[1]]_27 wherein said panel is at least one panel selected from a group of panels consisting of solar panels, work surfaces, covers, hatch covers, access panels, seats, and manhole covers.

Claim 22 (Withdrawn): The system according to claim [[1]]_27 further comprising storage compartments disposed beneath said panel when said panel is in said closed position and revealed when said panel is in said stowed position.

Claim 23 (Withdrawn): The system according to claim [[1]]_27 further comprising storage compartments disposed beneath said panel when said panel is in said closed position and is stowed when said panel is in said stowed position.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The system according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 27 wherein said hinge ~~point~~ is not lower than the plane of the planar surface when said slider assembly is extended to said upper limit.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A system for the retraction and deployment of a panel, said system comprising:

- a first planar surface ~~beneath which is disposed a support structure;~~
- a panel selected from a group of panels consisting of solar panels, work surfaces, covers, hatch covers, access panels, seats, manhole covers;
- an opening disposed in said first planar surface which is configured to receive said panel into a closed position disposed in said opening and substantially co-planar with said first planar surface;
- at least one slider assembly, comprising a stationary component and a sliding component, said stationary component ~~coupled to said support structure and~~ disposed at a sloping angle, said sliding component coupled to said panel at a hinge point such that said panel is rotatable between a co-planar closed position angle and said sloping angle, and when said sliding component is fully extended is slidable on said slider assembly at said sloping angle to a stowed position; and
- said panel being movable between said stowed position wherein said panel is pitched at a stowed position angle equal to said sloping angle and said closed position by lifting said panel from either position, rotating said panel to match the angle of the other position, and lowering said panel into the other position.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A system disposable beneath a planar surface for closure and opening of an opening in said planar surface configured to receive a panel, said system comprising:

~~a support structure configured to be disposed below said planar surface;~~

at least one hinged panel attach point to which said panel may be mounted and whereby said panel may be positioned in a closed position disposed in said opening and substantially co-planar with said first planar surface;

at least one slider assembly, comprising a stationary component and a sliding component, said stationary component ~~coupled to said support structure and~~ disposed at a sloping angle beneath said first planar surface, said sliding component coupled to said hinged panel attach point such that said hinged panel attach point is rotatable between a co-planar closed position angle and said sloping angle, and when said sliding component is fully extended is slidable on said slider assembly at said sloping angle to a stowed position beneath said first planar surface and laterally displaced from said opening; and

said hinged panel attach point being movable between said stowed position, wherein said hinged panel attach point is pitched at a stowed position angle equal to said sloping angle, and said closed position by lifting said hinged panel attach point from either position, rotating said hinged panel attach point to match the angle of the other position, and lowering said hinged panel attach point into the other position.

Claim 27 (New): A system for the retraction and deployment of a panel, said system comprising:

a first planar surface;

a panel;

an opening in said first planar surface whereby said panel is received when in a closed position such that said panel is substantially coplanar with said first surface;

a slider component disposed at a sloping angle beneath the plane of said first planar surface;

a hinge coupling said sliding component and said panel, such that said panel can rotate between a coplanar and angled orientation relative to said first planar surface; and

said sliding component being configured to receive said panel beneath said first planar surface and laterally displaced from said opening.